

Minutes  
Shellfish Advisory Board  
Jan. 6, 2014  
Town Hall Hearing Room

**Present:** Barbara Austin, Barbara Brennessel, John Duane, Joel Fox, Jacob Puffer (alternate), Rebecca Taylor (at 7:40).

**Regrets:** James O'Connell

**Guests:** Andy Koch, Shellfish Constable, Marilyn Miller

1. Convened 7:10 pm
2. Minutes from Dec. 10, 2013 approved 4-0, with one abstention.
3. Discussion of letter to BOS regarding changes to seasonal shellfishing regulations. The draft letter was edited and approved. Barbara B. will revise the letter and Helen MW will add the wording to incorporate into the Shellfishing regulations.
4. Changes to regulations: The SAB will amend Section 7.16 to coincide with Section 7.8.4.
5. The SAB will suggest changes in the Regulations to reflect the recent change in the date for the submission of the annual report.
6. Dates to obtain a commercial permit: The SAB discussed and voted to change Regulation 6.1.2 so that commercial permits will only be issued from Dec. 1 through January 31. Approved 5-0. The rationale for this change will be added to the letter to the BOS in which all the proposed changes to the Shellfishing Regulations are presented. The rationale is to eliminate opportunistic applications and thus protect the resource.
7. Discussion of draft letter asking for additional seasonal assistant for the Shellfish Department. Helen MW explained possible liability problems for the Town when using private contractors who work with town departments. Some of the wording of the letter was changed. Barbara B. will revise the letter and send a copy to SPAT.
8. Helen MW announced that Bob Wallace informed her that insurance companies that cover aquaculture may no longer cover product liability. Helen looked into this and found that product liability is still covered by some agencies but premiums are increasing. Joel explained that the more a grower produces, the higher the premium.
9. Next meeting: Possible date: Feb. 24, 2014 at 7pm.
10. Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Brennessel